

ABSTRACT

AL-IIA-132

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(153)

Pratt, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

1766/1767 (area surveyed/marked)

1902 (new monument first set at
additional site)

Milestone No. ---(153) marks ^{an additional} point on Mason and Dixon's West Line about 2550 feet west of the preceding monument and mound, No. ---(152), close to 145 horizontal miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is a very plain, dressed Cockeysville marble monument of 1902, of the same design and stone source as 65 other monuments set during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary west of Sideling Hill. It is in good condition, unaltered, measures about 10 inches square with a low pyramidal top and stands about 1 foot above ground. The only embellishments are the blocky capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, the year of the preliminary Mason and Dixon survey in this area (1766) on the east side, and the year set by the 1900-03 Resurvey (1902) on the west side. No. ---(153) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. Locally, as one of 37 monuments marking the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, it is also significant for its identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.